

News Release



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Rehabilitation, Upgrades to Close Francis Campground at Half Moon State Beach

HALF MOON BAY – Following the upcoming busy Fourth of July holiday weekend, the popular Francis Campground at Half Moon Bay State Beach will close for several months for improvements that will include the replacement of worn-out facilities and septic lines, and improved campsites.

“We are very excited about these long awaited improvements at Francis Beach,” said Superintendent Chet Bardo.

Although the campground will be closed during the renovation for approximately six months, public access to the Day Use Area at Francis Beach will be maintained except for brief periods -- a maximum of three weeks -- when construction to complete significant upgrades in the area blocks access.

There will be no restrictions on foot and bike access to Francis Beach, and day use parking will be available at other Half Moon Bay State Beaches.

The upgraded campground will consist of 53 developed campsites, as well as walk-in sites and Hike & Bike campsites. The renovation includes lengthening and widening the individual sites to provide improved ocean vistas, privacy, and much better use of the existing space. The current entrance station building will be replaced.

Improved landscaping and new walkways are included in the comprehensive upgrade. Electrical hook-ups at the campsites are not included at this time, although the infrastructure will be put in place to accommodate future improvements.

The Day Use Area parking lot will be resurfaced, and the restroom replaced, with hot showers added. The picnic and barbecue areas will be improved and better access provided for visitors with disabilities. A new walkway will lead to the Visitor Center, which opened last year. Animal-proof trash receptacles will continue to be installed in all areas. These containers are part of an on-going effort to reduce the number of unnatural food sources in the park to

discourage non-native predators and scavengers that can hurt native wildlife, such as the threatened western snowy plover, a tiny shorebird that nests on Half Moon Bay State Beach.

Limited enroute camping for self-contained recreational vehicles may be offered at other State Beach locations.

Visitors may telephone (650) 726-8819 for more information. The Visitor Center will operate on its usual schedule during most of this period. It is open Thursday through Sunday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

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